Remarks

Claims 1 to 15 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 14, and 15 have been canceled. Claims 4-9 and 11-13 are amended. The Examiner has indicated that independent claim 2 is allowable. By this Amendment and Response Applicants have canceled the other independent claims (i.e., claims 1, 3, 14, and 15) without prejudice and amended the dependent claims to depend only from independent claim 2. In view of the foregoing amendments, the claim rejections under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103 have been overcome and can now be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Allowance of claims 2 and 4-13, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sean J. Edman, Reg. No.: 42,506 Telephone No.: (651) 575-1796

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833